

A personal message 'from the bridge' . . .

One of our most important tasks for the foreseeable future is addressing congestion in the U.S. transportation system.

This is the highest priority of the Department of Transportation and to get results we will be working closely with the other agencies within the department, as well as state and local governments, private industry, and our other stakeholders.

To that end, we must look broadly at the movement of freight in and out of our seaports, whether it is containers, or liquid bulk or dry bulk, as well as passenger trades, in order to develop concrete plans to relieve today's congestion and prepare for the projected dramatic increase in trade over the next decade.

The inherent complexity of the transportation industry dictates that we must move with care to advance projects and programs to improve transportation infrastructure around our seaports in a timely fashion.

We believe that the Maritime Administration can bring knowledge, experience, and other capabilities to



SEAN T. CONNAUGHTON
Maritime Administrator

bear for more effective coordination, cooperation and the development of best practices and solutions to address the challenges we are facing from congestion.

Better utilization of the shoreside and waterborne transportation infrastructure will move freight and passengers in a cost-effective, environmentally friendly, and efficient way, while helping relieve the tie-ups in our ports and on our roads and railways.

To achieve results, we expect to be shifting resources and focus on this issue. This will enable us to become a leading advocate for the Department on addressing congestion among our traditional stakeholders and beyond.

This effort presents challenges and opportunities that are well worth the benefits to the industry and the nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean T. Connaughton".

SEAN T. CONNAUGHTON
Maritime Administrator
U.S. Maritime Administration

MARAD's 2006 Combined Federal Campaign under way

The 2006 Combined Federal Campaign at the Maritime Administration kicked off Oct. 27 in Washington, D.C., with a special briefing at headquarters for all Maritime Administration employees.

Speakers at the event included Linda Washington representing the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, and Maritime Administrator Sean T. Connaughton.

In their remarks, both Washington and Connaughton emphasized

the importance of this annual charity drive, which is conducted each fall throughout the federal government by agency employees and volunteers.

The speakers also encouraged those in attendance to give what they could to help others and thanked all for their generosity throughout past campaigns.

Nationally, the annual drive



raises millions of dollars for charity and provides an easy way for federal government employees to contribute to non-profit organizations of their choice through automatic payroll deductions.

MARAD employees who wish to participate and help the National Capital Area reach this year's goal, should contact any CFC key worker for assistance.

MARAD Update

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